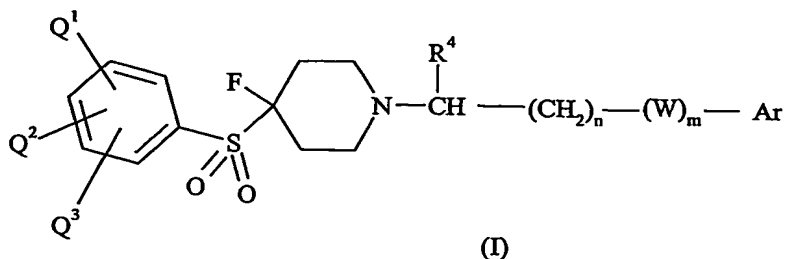


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein:

Ar is phenyl, benzisothiazol-3-yl or benzthiophen-3-yl, each of which bears substituent groups R^1 , R^2 and R^3 ;

- 10 R^1 is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{2-6} alkenyloxy, C_{2-6} alkynyloxy, or C_{1-6} alkyl substituted by up to 5-fluorine atoms;

R^2 is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, C_{1-4} alkyl substituted by up to 5 fluorine atoms or C_{1-4} alkoxy substituted by up to 5 fluorine atoms;

- 15 R^3 is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy or difluoromethoxy;

- Q^1 is hydrogen; fluorine; chlorine; bromine; C_{1-6} alkyl; C_{3-6} cycloalkyl; C_{2-6} alkenyl; C_{2-6} alkynyl; C_{1-6} alkoxy; C_{2-6} alkenyloxy; C_{2-6} alkynyloxy; C_{1-6} alkyl substituted by up to 5-fluorine atoms; nitrile; COQ^4 or CO_2Q^4 where Q^4 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; NQ^5Q^6 , $CONQ^5Q^6$ or $SO_2NQ^5Q^6$ where Q^5 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl and Q^6 is hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl or Q^5 and Q^6 are joined to form either a 4-7 membered heterocyclic ring which may also contain one oxygen or one further nitrogen ring atom, which heterocyclic ring may optionally be substituted by up to 3 fluorine atoms or by CF_3 , methyl, ethyl or hydroxyl; hydroxyl; nitro; SOQ^7 or SO_2Q^7 where Q^7 is C_{1-4} alkyl; NQ^8COQ^9 , $NQ^8CO_2Q^9$ or $NQ^8SO_2Q^9$ where Q^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl and Q^9 is hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl or is joined to Q^8 to form a 5-7 membered ring; a heteroaromatic ring of 5 ring atoms 1, 2, 3 or 4 of which may be nitrogen atoms or 1 or 2 of which are nitrogen atoms and 1 of which is an oxygen or sulfur atom or 1 of

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which is an oxygen or sulfur atom, which heteroaromatic ring optionally being substituted by methyl, ethyl or hydroxyl; or a heteroaromatic ring of 6 ring atoms containing 1 or 2 nitrogen ring atoms or a phenyl group either of which is optionally substituted by 1 or 2 fluorine or chlorine atoms or C₁₋₄alkyl, C₁₋₄alkoxy or trifluoromethyl groups;

Q² is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, nitrile, hydroxy, C₁₋₄ alkyl, C₁₋₄ alkoxy, C₁₋₄ alkyl substituted by up to 5 fluorine atoms, or C₁₋₄ alkoxy substituted by up to 5 fluorine atoms;

Q³ is hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy or difluoromethoxy;

or Q² and Q³ are joined to form the residue of a 5, 6 or 7 membered carbocyclic ring;

R⁴ is H or C₁₋₄ alkyl,

m is 0 or 1;

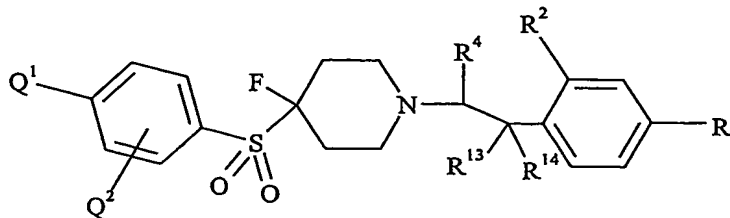
n is 0, 1 or 2; and

W is CH₂, CHF, CH(OH) or CO.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Ar represents benzisothiazol-3-yl or benzthiophen-3-yl, each bearing substituent groups R¹, R² and R³, and m and n are both 0.

3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Ar represents phenyl bearing substituent groups R¹, R² and R³, m is 1 and n is 0.

4. A compound according to claim 1 of formula IIA:



(IIA)

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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

wherein R^{13} represents H and R^{14} represents H, F or OH, or R^{13} and R^{14} together represent keto;

and Q^1 , Q^2 , R^1 , R^2 and R^4 are as defined in claim 1.

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5. A compound according to any previous claim wherein Q^1 is selected from H, F, Cl, Br, CN, carboxamide, 5-membered heteroaryl and NQ^5Q^6 where Q^5 and Q^6 complete a heterocyclic ring;

Q^2 is H, F or Cl;

10

Q^3 is H or F;

R^1 is H, F, methyl or CF_3 ;

R^2 is H, F, methyl or CF_3 ; and

R^3 is H.

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6. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

7. A compound according to claim 1 for use in a method of treatment of the human body.

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8. The use of a compound according to claim 1 for the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing a condition mediated by 5-HT_{2A} receptor activity.

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9. A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to a condition mediated by 5-HT_{2A} receptor activity which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

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